



ARIZONA SCHOOL FACILITIES BOARD
1700 WEST WASHINGTON, SUITE 602
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007
www.sfb.state.az.us

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Darla A. Jordan
Public Information Officer
(602) 542-6144
djordan@sfb.state.az.us

39% of School Renovation Projects under Construction or Complete

(PHOENIX, AZ – July 15, 2002) The Arizona School Facilities Board announced today that 2,400 (39%) of the state's school deficiency correction projects are under construction or complete as of June 30, 2002. This number has risen from 27.5% since May 15, 2002. Additionally, 1,138 (18.5%) of the projects are in the bid phase. This billion-dollar deficiency correction program consists of 6,152 projects statewide.

"We continue to make excellent progress with the deficiency correction projects and anticipate that over 50% of the projects will be under construction or complete by August 15, 2002," says Edward Boot, Interim Executive Director of the School Facilities Board. The Students FIRST law requires that all projects be commenced by June 30, 2003 and completed by June 30, 2004. Boot stated that the Board is confident these legislatively mandated dates will be met.

Nine project management firms are working with the Board to complete the projects, which include HVAC (heating/ventilation/air-conditioning), roofing, electrical upgrades, drainage, fire alarms, play surfaces, lighting, intercoms, and replacement space. In extreme cases, new schools are built to replace existing deficient space. Individual project values range from the low thousands of dollars to more than \$11 million. "The project management firms have done an exemplary job helping the Board to meet its deadline," said Boot. The nine project management firms are Abacus Project Management, DMJM+N, G.V. Enterprises, Gilbane, Heery International, Jacobs/Chanen, Kitchell, PinnacleOne, and Vanir.

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